

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 11 through 14, and 16 through 20 as follows:

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1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly comprising:
a main body ~~adapted to be disposed~~ ^{NS} having an aperture adapted to fit over a hitch tube and ~~adapted~~ to allow insertion of a hitch into the hitch tube;

an insulating member adapted to be disposed over the hitch tube and between said main body and the hitch tube; and

a rotatable cover plate ~~hinged~~ ^{NS} connected to said main body and being movable between a closed position and an open position for closing and opening said aperture.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~trailer~~ ^{deleted} hitch cover assembly comprising:
a main body ~~operatively connected to~~ having an open portion adapted to fit over a hitch tube and ~~adapted~~ to allow insertion of a hitch into an open end of the hitch tube;

a cover ~~plate~~ hingedly connected to said main body and being movable between a closed position and an open position for opening and closing the open end; and

wherein said main body includes at least one deflectable tab to retain said main body on the hitch tube.

3. (ORIGINAL) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said main body further comprises at least one aperture extending therethrough adapted to allow passage of a lock pin.

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4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said main body further comprises a front face having ~~an opening~~ said aperture adapted to allow passage of the hitch into an open end of the hitch tube.

5. (ORIGINAL) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said main body further comprises at least one first hinge knuckle.

6. (ORIGINAL) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 5 wherein said cover plate further comprises at least one second hinge knuckle.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 6 including a hinge pin extending through said at least one first hinge knuckle and said at least one second hinge knuckle to allow said cover plate to rotate about said hinge pin between said closed position and said open position.

8. (ORIGINAL) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said main body includes a plurality of apertures extending therethrough.

9. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly comprising:
a main body operatively connected to a hitch tube and adapted to allow insertion of a hitch into the hitch tube;

an insulating member disposed between said main body and the hitch tube;

a cover plate hingedly connected to said main body and being movable between a closed position and an open position;

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wherein said main body includes a plurality of apertures extending therethrough;
and

wherein said insulating member includes a plurality of pins extending outwardly
and through said apertures in said main body to connect said insulating member to said main
body.

10. (ORIGINAL) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 1
wherein said insulating member further comprises a front face having an opening adapted to
allow passage of the hitch into the open end of the hitch tube.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in
claim 1 wherein said cover plate ~~has a rear face and~~ includes a plurality of raised elements ~~on said~~
~~rear face.~~

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly ~~for a motor~~
~~vehicle~~ comprising:

a main body ~~adapted to be disposed over a hitch tube and~~ having a front face with
and an opening adapted to fit over a hitch tube and to allow passage of a hitch into an open end of
the hitch tube;

an insulating member disposed within and operatively connected to said main
body; and

a movable cover plate ~~hingedly~~ connected to said main body to be moved between
a first position and a second position for closing and opening the open end of the hitch tube.

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13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ^{deleted} A ~~trailer~~ hitch cover assembly comprising:
 a main body ~~for connection to a hitch tube and~~ having a front face with and an opening adapted to fit over a hitch tube and to allow passage of a hitch into an open end of the hitch tube;

an insulating member disposed within and operatively connected to said main body;

a movable cover ~~plate~~ hingedly connected to said main body to be moved between a first position and a second position for closing and opening the open end of the hitch tube; and

wherein said main body includes opposed side walls extending from said front face with at least one deflectable tab to retain said main body on the hitch tube.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~trailer~~ hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim ~~12~~ ^{space} 13 wherein each of said sidewalls ~~include~~ includes at least one aperture extending therethrough adapted to allow passage of a lock pin.

15. (ORIGINAL) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 12 wherein said main body further comprises at least one first hinge knuckle.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 15 wherein said cover plate further comprises at least one second hinge knuckle.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly as set forth in claim 16 including a hinge pin extending through said at least one first hinge knuckle and said at

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least one second hinge knuckle to allow said cover plate to rotate about said hinge pin between said first position and said second position.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~trailer~~ hitch cover assembly comprising:
a main body for connection to a hitch tube and having a front face with an opening adapted to allow passage of a hitch into an open end of the hitch tube and opposed side walls extending from said front face;

a movable cover plate hingedly connected to said main body to be moved between a first position and a second position for closing and opening the open end;

wherein said main body includes a plurality of apertures extending through said sidewalls.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A trailer hitch cover assembly comprising:
a main body for connection to a hitch tube and having a front face with an opening adapted to allow passage of a hitch into an open end of the hitch tube and opposed side walls extending from said front face;

an insulating member disposed within and operatively connected to said main body;

a movable cover plate hingedly connected to said main body to be moved between a first position and a second position;

wherein said main body includes a plurality of apertures extending through said sidewalls; and

wherein said insulating member includes a plurality of pins extending outwardly and through said apertures to connect said insulating member to said main body.

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20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A hitch cover assembly comprising:

a hitch tube having a first opening adapted to receive a hitch;

a main body ~~disposed over said hitch tube and~~ having a front face with and a second opening to fit over said hitch tube and to allow passage of the hitch into said first opening ~~and~~ in said hitch tube;

an insulating member disposed within and operatively connected to said main body; and

a movable cover ~~plate~~ hingedly connected to said main body to be moved between a first position to close said first opening and a second position to open said first opening.
